

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of safeguarding at least one program part that is critical to safety against inadvertent execution, comprising:

 executing the at least one program part in a predetermined chronological sequence;
 at a certain point in time in the execution, generating a pattern using program code that is included in the at least one program part; and
 at least at one point in time after the certain point in time when the pattern is generated, checking whether the pattern is present.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pattern is generated at a beginning of the execution of the at least one program part.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the pattern is generated stored in a volatile memory element.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 checking an external boundary condition at the time of pattern generation and pattern checking.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein a state of a hardware component serves as the external boundary condition.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of safeguarding a program part that is critical to safety, comprising:
 performing a check at least at one point in time during an execution of the program part that is critical to safety to determine a presence of a pattern representing a proper sequence of the program part, the pattern being generated using code that is included in the at least one program part; and
 terminating the execution of the program part if the pattern is determined to be not present.

7. (Withdrawn) A memory device for storing program instructions to cause a microprocessor to safeguard at least one program part that is critical to safety against inadvertent execution, the microprocessor being divided into at least one area, each area storing a respective one of

the at least one program part, the at least one program part being executable in a predetermined chronological sequence, the memory device comprising:

 a first arrangement for generating a pattern at a certain point in time when the at least one program part is executed; and

 at least one second arrangement for performing a check at a later point in time to determine whether the pattern is present.

8. (Withdrawn) The memory device of claim 7, further comprising:

 an arrangement for resetting the microprocessor.